

Income

Family income and per capita income are good indicators of the money flow within an area. Figure 1 gives these measures for Newton Township, Catawba County and North Carolina. (This information for the town of Maiden alone is limited due to the enumeration methods for places with less than 2,500 population.) The township and the county figures reflect a better picture than the State, but it should be remembered that the amounts shown are the median, or halfway point. Therefore, there are many families in the area that receive less family or per capita income than that shown.

Figure 2 further illustrates the family income point for Newton Township and for Catawba County. For example, nearly 62% of the families in both cases made from \$4,000 to \$7,999 in 1959. However, almost 24% in both cases made less than \$3,000 in that year. Consequently, about one of every four families in the area was in the poverty range in 1959, based on the presently accepted definition of poverty income as less than \$3,000. While not shown in the graphics used here, it should be noted that the Catawba County median family income for non-whites was \$2,698. Therefore, many of the families in the poverty range were Negro families.

There are indications that the income picture has improved. This will be covered in more detail in the economic section.